

Message Text

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13-12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 INR-07 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-06

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 FEA-01

AGR-10 DODE-00 H-02 INT-05 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 /143 W

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASH DC 9323
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMMBASSY REYKJAVIK 1822
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMMBASSY STOCKHOLM 2979
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
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USDEL MTN GENEVA

UNCLAS OECD PARIS 30267

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: UK STATEMENT ON IMPORT CONTROLS AND THE TRADE
PLEDGE

UK DEL HAS PROVIDED MISSION WITH FOLLOWING TEXT OF
NOV. 17 PRESS STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER WILSON ON UK
ATTITUDE ON IMPORT CONTROLS.

BEGIN TEXT:

WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT
A GENERALISED SYSTEM OF IMPORT CONTROLS ON BEHALF OF OUR
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS OR ANYTHING ELSE IS RIGHT FOR BRI-
TAIN. I HAVE SAID THIS MANY TIMES BOTH IN PARLIAMENT
AND ABROAD. IT WOULD HAVE A SERIOUS EFFECT ON OUR
EXPORTS. ONE QUARTER OF OUR PRODUCTION IS FOR EXPORT.
WE HAVE REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED THE GOVERNMENT'S DETERMIN-
ATION TO CONTINUE TO DO OUR BEST TO SUSTAIN WORLD TRADE.
BUT, AS WE HAVE ALSO MADE CLEAR - I DID SO MYSELF IN
PARLIAMENT EARLIER THIS MONTH - WE DO NOT RULE OUT
PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES SUFFERING
OR THREATENED WITH SERIOUS INJURY AS A RESULT OF IN-
CREASED IMPORTS, ON THE BASIS OF WHAT PRESIDENT FORD
DESCRIBED AS PARTICULARLY ACUTE AND UNUSUAL CIRCUM-
STANCES. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME SIGNS OF LETHAL ATTACKS
DIRECTED TO DESTROYING TWO OR THREE SECTORS OF INDUSTRY
FOR THE PERMANENT FUTURE. WE ARE NOT TALKING ABOUT
LAME DUCKS BUT ABOUT INDUSTRIES THAT ARE VIABLE AND
WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO THE ECONOMY WHEN WORLD RECOVERY
COMES; AND PARTICULARLY IF THEIR SURVIVAL IS THREATENED
BY A CONCERTED ATTACK.

ON THE OECD PLEDGE AGAINST RESTRICTIVE MEASURES,
THIS WAS REAFFIRMED IN MAY OF THIS YEAR, AND I DO NOT
SEE THAT THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT HAVE ANYTHING TO ADD
TO THAT REAFFIRMATION. THE TWO QUALIFICATIONS THAT WE
MADE IN RESPECT OF THE OECD PLEDGE IN MAY WERE FIRST
THAT FINANCE TO COVER DEFICITS MUST BE AVAILABLE AND
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SECONDLY THAT THE STRONGER ECONOMIES MUST EXPAND TO
LEAD THE WAY TO IMPROVEMENT IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE.
THESE TWO QUALIFICATIONS STILL APPLY.

REFERRING FURTHER TO PRESIDENT FORD, I WANT TO
GIVE FULL SUPPORT TO HIS PROPOSAL FOR A "MUTUALLY
ACCEPTABLE BASIS FOR REGULATING TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTS". WE ARGUE WITH HIM ABOUT THE URGENCY OF

THIS PROPOSAL. END TEXT
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